

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for network document processing, the method comprising:
  - a) activating an interface between a predetermined document processing device and a workstation;
  - 5 b) providing at least one user interface to a user at the workstation, wherein the interface allows the user to select operational settings for the predetermined document processing device;
  - c) generating a document data file; and
  - 10 d) communicating a location of the document data file and any auxiliary information to the predetermined document processing device, thereby activating a document processing job to be executed in accordance with any operational settings selected by the user.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein activating an interface further comprises launching a document processing client in response to a document processing request by the user.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein activating an interface further comprises launching and retrieving web pages to display capabilities of the predetermined document processing device.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the user interface is a web page.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein generating a document data file further comprises storing  
20 the document data file on a job file store.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein communicating a location further comprises sending a Uniform Resource Locator to the predetermined document-processing device.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the auxiliary information includes size of the document data file, and the operational settings specified by the user.
- 25 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the document processing device is one of the group comprising: a printer, a fax machine, a multi-function peripheral, an electronic document management system, a plotter, a network fax machine, a language translation server and a knowledge management system.
9. A computer-readable medium including software code that, when executed, results in:
  - 30 a) activation of an interface between a predetermined document processing device and a workstation;

b) provision of at least one user interface to a user at the workstation, wherein the interface allows the user to select operational settings for the predetermined document processing device;

c) generation of a document data file; and

5 d) communication of a location of the document data file and any auxiliary information to the predetermined document processing device, thereby activating a document processing job.

10. The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the computer-readable medium is a downloadable file.

10 11. The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the computer-readable medium is a generic printer driver installed on each workstation of a network.

12. A network document processing system, comprising:

a) a generic document processing client installed on at least one workstation connected to a network, wherein the document processing client is operable to interact with  
15 several different types of document processing devices;

b) a job file store, operable to receive document data files generated by the document processing client; and

c) at least one document-processing device, operable to receive a location of the document data files and auxiliary information associated with each document data file  
20 from the document-processing client.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the document-processing client is one of the group comprised of: a printer client, a fax client, an electronic document management system client, a language translation client, and a knowledge system management client.

14. The system of claim 12, wherein the job file store is located on the workstation upon  
25 which is installed the document processing client.

15. The system of claim 12, wherein the job file store is located on another device connected to the network.

16. The system of claim 12, wherein the job file store is a dedicated device.

17. The system of claim 12, wherein the document processing device is one of the group comprising: a printer, a fax machine, a multi-function peripheral, an electronic document management system, a plotter, a network fax machine, a language translation server, and a knowledge management system.  
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